

Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation, and Conservation Council Meeting November 30, 2021



Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Update on 1,030' Consultation – *Council Chair, ADWR Director Tom Buschatzke*
- III. Follow-up to Discussion of Additional Management Periods – *Council Chair, ADWR Director Tom Buschatzke*
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. Post-2025 AMAs Committee
 - b. Non-AMA Groundwater Committee
 - c. Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee
- V. Council Website Updates – *Jenna Norris, ADWR Governor's Water Council Coordinator*
- VI. Closing Remarks
- VII. Meeting Dates for 2022
- VIII. Adjournment



Webinar Logistics

- Please state your name when speaking.
- Mute yourself when not speaking.
- Indicate you wish to speak by typing your name in the chat box, and you will be invited to unmute and speak.
- Please message “Everyone” in the chat.
- The meeting and chat will be recorded.

Technical issues? Send a **direct message to ADWR-Host** in the chat, call the ADWR Help Desk at 602-771-8444 or email tickets@azwater.gov.



I. Welcome and Introductions



II. Update on 1,030' Consultation



Council Chair, ADWR Director Tom Buschatzke

1,030' Consultation – Commitment to Additional Action

Exhibit 1 to the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement, Sec. V. B. 2, states in part:

- * “...commitment to individual and collective action to avoid and protect against the potential for elevations in Lake Mead to decline to elevations **below 1,020’**”
- * “... If any 24-Month Study for the minimum probable inflows projects that Lake Mead will be at or **below 1,030’** anytime within the succeeding two Years, the Secretary and Lower Division States shall consult and determine what additional measures will be taken”
- * August 2021 24-Month Study triggered this provision

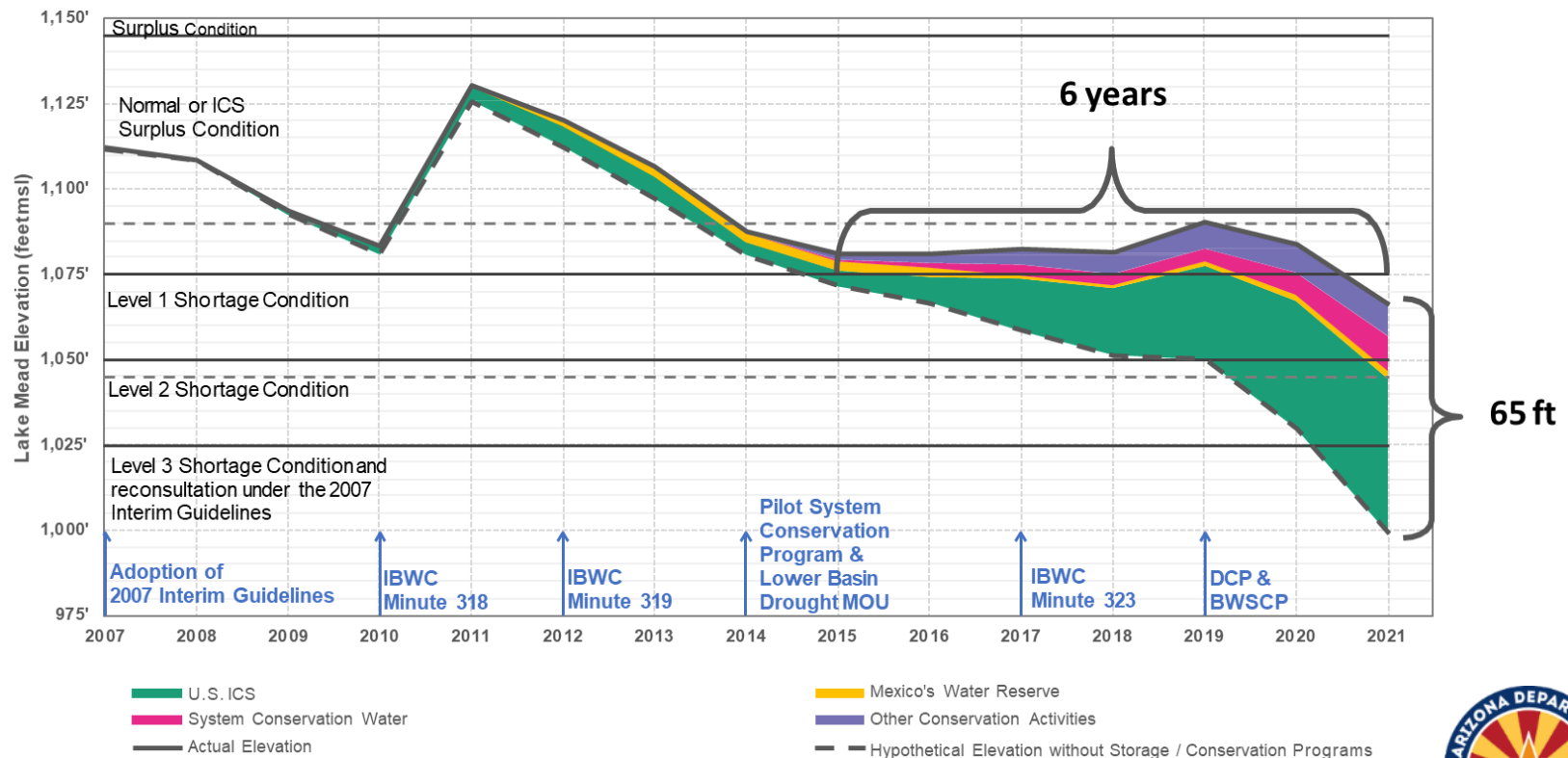


1,030' Consultation – Lower Basin Discussions

- * Lower Basin Parties have been meeting since August to develop a plan for additional commitments to conserve/contribute additional water to Lake Mead beyond those in DCP - from Arizona, California, Nevada and the U.S.
 - * ADWR and CAP have been closely coordinating throughout

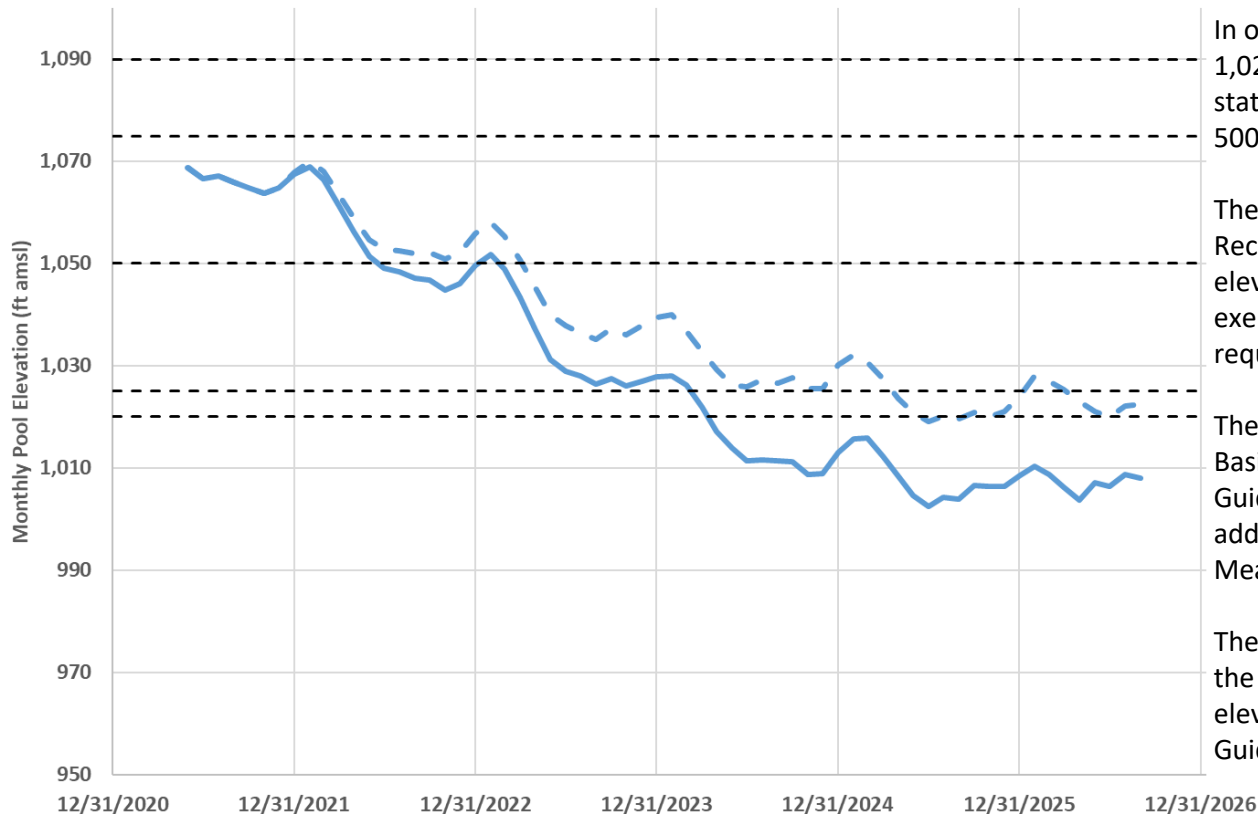


Lake Mead Storage and Conservation



Analysis of Additional Conservation

June 2021 CRMMS MTOM Mode 500 KAF Annual Conservation 2022-2026 - Ensemble



In order to protect the critical elevation of 1,020' in Lake Mead, the Lower Basin states modeled taking an additional annual 500kaf of conservation measures.

The blue solid line represents the Bureau of Reclamation's projected Lake Mead elevation from its June 2021 modeling exercise ('07 Interim Guidelines + DCP required contributions).

The blue dashed line represents the Lower Basin states' modeled results of '07 Interim Guidelines + DCP required contributions + additional annual 500kaf conserved in Lake Mead.

These planned actions significantly reduce the risk of Lake Mead falling below elevation 1,020' through the '07 Interim Guidelines and DCP period.



Lower Basin 500+ Plan

- * Two-year plan, with expected ongoing activity through 2026
- * Four types of activities
 - * Additional ICS
 - * Reduction in planned ICS releases
 - * System Conservation
 - * System Efficiency
- Funding commitments from AZ, CA, NV and the U.S.
- 2022 target volumes identified:
 - [Arizona: ~223 KAF](#)
 - [California: ~215 KAF](#)
 - [Reclamation: ~62 KAF](#)
- 2023 volumes under further development



Arizona Contributions to 500+ Plan

- Arizona's target of ~223 KAF anticipates participation from both on-River and CAP water users
 - Includes both tribal and non-tribal participants
 - ~30 KAF on-River
 - ~193 KAF from CAP water users
- All contributions will directly benefit Lake Mead, through System Water or Storage, including reduced release of ICS
- CAP and ADWR are providing funding, and have established guiding principles for Arizona's contributions:
 - Voluntary ▪ Temporary ▪ Compensated



III. Follow-up to Discussion of Additional Management Periods



Council Chair, ADWR Director Tom Buschatzke

IV. Committee Updates

- i. Post-2025 AMAs Committee
- ii. Non-AMA Groundwater Committee
- iii. Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee



Post-2025 AMAs Committee Report

Governor's Water Augmentation Innovation & Conservation Council

November 30, 2021





Solutions Phase Process to Date

Since June 2021, Committee discussed and suggested ideas to address –

- Groundwater in the Assured Water Supply Program
- Unreplenished Groundwater Withdrawals
- Hydrologic Disconnect

Objective – Present to the Council generally agreed-upon recommendations by the end of the 2021

In 2022, continue discussion to develop additional recommendations for solutions

Meetings –

June 22, 2021

Sept 9, 2021

Oct 27, 2021

Aug 10, 2021

Oct 5, 2021

Nov 9, 2021



Recommendations to Council November 30, 2021

- Request ADWR to initiate a comprehensive review of the Recharge & Recovery Program with input from stakeholders
- Request ADWR to review the Methodology for Reviewing Certificate and Analysis of AWS Applications in Commingled Distribution System
- Request the Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee to further discuss Arizona's approach to augmentation
- Request the removal of WaterBUD Restrictions
- Request resources be provided to ADEQ to fast track the updating of the Arizona Administrative Code on Purified Water for Potable Use



Improve Regulatory Process for Recharge & Recovery

- Stakeholders have encountered regulatory obstacles with new and existing recharge facilities and with recovery.
- ADWR has started to address some of these issues.
- Request ADWR to initiate a review of its recharge and recovery program with stakeholder engagement.

Review ADWR's Methodology for Reviewing Certificate and Analysis of AWS Applications in Commingled Distribution System

- Request ADWR to consider enabling a developer to provide water to a water provider that can then serve that water through the provider's mixed system without regard to historic volumetric accounting policy for AWS purposes.



Express Support for Further Discussions about Arizona's Approach to Augmentation

- Request Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee to further discuss augmentation

Removal of WaterBUD Restrictions

- Current statutes prevent the accrual of Long-Term Storage Credits for certain entities that are pumping groundwater.
- Removing all or part of "WaterBUD" would allow entities to accrue or buy LTSC regardless of their groundwater pumping.

Accelerate ADEQ's Development of Administrative Rules for Direct Potable Reuse

- Provide resources to ADEQ to fast track updating the Arizona Administrative Code on Purified Water for Potable Use.
- Ensure regulations are in place so public and private water providers have a clear path for developing this resource.



Recommendations to Council November 30, 2021

- Request ADWR to initiate a comprehensive review of the Recharge & Recovery Program with input from stakeholders
- Request ADWR to review the Methodology for Reviewing Certificate and Analysis of AWS Applications in Commingled Distribution System
- Request the Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee to further discuss Arizona's approach to augmentation
- Request the removal of WaterBUD Restrictions
- Request resources be provided to ADEQ to fast track the updating of the Arizona Administrative Code on Purified Water for Potable Use

Non-AMA Groundwater Committee

Co-Chairs Representative Gail Griffin and Jamie Kelley

Next meeting: January 6, 2022

- Last met on October 14, 2021 ([Meeting Recording](#)). Agenda items included:
 - 2021 Legislative Water Successes
 - Presentations on Enhanced Aquifer Recharge/Stormwater Harvesting
 - Discussion of Committee Goals
 - Next Step



2021 Legislative Water Successes

Representative Griffin shared a summary of 2021 Legislative Accomplishments for water including:

- * \$160 million to the Drought Mitigation Revolving Fund
- * \$40 million to the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund
- * Additional appropriations to the Arizona Water Protection Fund and ADWR
- * Over \$100 million to the Department of Forestry and Fire Management for wildfire mitigation and emergency response efforts.



Enhanced Recharge Presentation Take-Aways

- * The dominant type of recharge in an area varies on a regional scale and is dependent on the hydrogeology of an area. Therefore, the potential feasibility of enhanced recharge efforts also varies on a regional scale.
- * Mohave county has implemented a robust stormwater infiltration program with several constructed and planned projects. The goals of the program are (1) to eliminate or reduce flood related hazards and erosion repairs on infrastructure, and (2) to facilitate increased infiltration into the Aquifer.
- * Without enhanced and targeted recharge, **in arid environments most of the precipitation** from large storm events is **lost to evapotranspiration**, citing an **estimated average of ~95%, with some areas averaging up to 98%.**



Committee Goals

- a) To achieve a baseline understanding of Arizona groundwater in Non-Active Management Areas.
- b) To identify and develop voluntary alternatives to address groundwater issues by planning area while protecting individual property rights.
- c) To make recommendations to the full Council for Best Management Practices at the local level.
- d) The further discussion and recommendation of issues that may be brought forward.



Discussion on Committee Goals

- i. Stated desire for further discussions on water management strategies such as INAs, RMAs and subsequent AMAs at the next meeting.
 - i. Proposal to form a subcommittee to explore these topics. May be revisited at a future meeting.
 - ii. Co-chair Representative Griffin shared that she would create a list of voluntary options to address water availability across the state as well.



Non-AMA Groundwater Committee
Co-Chairs Representative Gail Griffin and Jamie Kelley

Next Meeting: January 6th, 2022 @ 1pm
([Webinar Login Link](#))



Questions from Council Members for the Non-AMA Groundwater Committee?

Chairs: Representative Griffin and Jamie Kelley
Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation & Conservation Council
November 30, 2021

Long-Term Water Augmentation Committee

Chair Wade Noble

Next meeting: January 13, 2022

- The committee will meet next on **Thursday, January 13, 2022**, at 10am ([WebEx Login Link](#)).
 - An agenda will be shared closer to the meeting date.



Storage Sites Subcommittee Outcomes

A Guide to Selecting Underground Water Storage and/or Aquifer Augmentation Sites ([link](#))

- * Aimed to assist stakeholders with selecting sites for water storage/augmentation projects.
 - Intended to be used alongside the joint ADWR & ASLD Report: [Potential Water Storage Sites on State Trust Land](#)

Potential Water Storage Sites on Arizona State Trust Land

POTENTIAL SITES IDENTIFIED BY THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE ARIZONA STATE LAND DEPARTMENT, 2021



2021



INTRODUCTION

This document provides resources and information that individuals and groups can use as a guide when evaluating underground water storage and aquifer augmentation potential on public or private land, including Arizona State Trust Land. The considerations outlined in this guide may not apply to all projects. Additionally, certain projects may raise unique issues not addressed in this guide. It is advisable to work with legal and technical consultants in connection with any proposal.

ADWR authored this guide with input from the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) and the Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation, and Conservation Council (Council) Storage Sites Subcommittee.

We would like to acknowledge Arizona State Representative Gail Griffin (District 14), an active member of the Council and the Storage Sites Subcommittee and a proponent of facilitating additional water storage and aquifer augmentation in Arizona. Representative Griffin sponsored HB 2249 (Chapter 33, Laws 2021), which includes a provision requiring the State Land Commissioner and the Director of ADWR develop a plan to create additional water storage in Arizona that includes preliminarily investigating acceptable sites to construct new water storage facilities on State Trust Land.

In response to HB 2249, ADWR identified sites located along streams that cross State Trust lands where the underlying material is conducive to storage. In some cases, factors such as proximity of potential sites to potential places of recovery and use and/or multiplicity of potential sites located on the same stream were used to eliminate isolated or potentially redundant sites. Sites located along canals, near the Colorado River, and in areas with many existing Underground Storage Facilities were also eliminated.

ADWR ultimately identified 331 possible underground storage sites (see Figure 1) and published them in the 2021 report, *Potential Water Storage Sites on Arizona State Trust Land*. ADWR and the Storage Sites Subcommittee did not attempt to further refine the list of potential options or prioritize sites, recognizing that local stakeholders are best positioned to evaluate the opportunities available to them. This guide was developed to assist stakeholders in that process but should not be taken as specific guidance applicable to all projects.

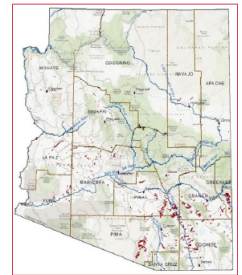


Figure 1. Potential Underground Water Storage Sites

Questions from Council Members for the LTWA Committee?

Chair: Wade Noble

Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation & Conservation Council

November 30, 2021

V. Governor's Water Council Website Updates



VI. Closing Remarks



VII. Upcoming 2022 Meetings

Friday, March 25, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Friday, June 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, September 22, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 10:00 a.m.



Contact Information

Jenna Norris
Governor's Water Council Coordinator
jnorris@azwater.gov

Nadene Hubbard
Governor's Water Council Facilitator
nhubbard@azwater.gov

John Riggins
Statewide Planning Manager
jrriggins@azwater.gov

Carol Ward
Deputy Assistant Director
cward@azwater.gov



VIII. Adjournment

